IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-5, 7-17 and 19 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of setting up a broadcast or multicast transmission to a plurality of terminal devices (10) via a first switching node (40) and a second switching node (30) of a data network, said method comprising the steps of:

a) providing to said first switching node (40) an information indicating the number of connections required between said second switching node (30) and said plurality of terminals (10); and

b) determining based on said provided information a number of connections to be set up between said first switching node (40) and said second switching node (30).

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said number of connections to be set up between said first and second switching nodes (40, 30) is determined to be equal to said number of connections indicated by said provided information.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said broadcast or multicast transmission is a multimedia service transmission, said first switching node is a GGSN (40), and said second switching node is an SGSN (30).

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein said connections are tunnel connections.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein said providing step comprises the steps of setting up an initial connection between said first and second switching nodes ~~(40, 30)~~, and transmitting said information from said second switching node ~~(30)~~ to said first switching node ~~(40)~~ in response to a request of said first switching node ~~(40)~~.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 5, wherein said information is transmitted in a response message to a context activation request.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein said information is transmitted in a response message to an identification request issued by said first switching node ~~(40)~~.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein a context activation for said determined number of connections is requested by said first switching node ~~(40)~~ in response to the receipt of said response message.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein a context activation for said determined number of connections is requested by said second switching node ~~(30)~~ after the transmission of said response message.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein said providing step comprises the steps of storing said information in a memory table ~~(42)~~ accessible by said first switching node ~~(40)~~.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ <u>claim</u> <u>1</u>, wherein said providing step comprises the steps of performing a query to an address server using an identification information or an area identification information of said broadcast or multicast transmission.

12. (Currently Amended) A system for setting up a broadcast or multicast transmission to a plurality of terminal devices ~~(10)~~ via a first switching node ~~(40)~~ and a second switching node ~~(30)~~ of a data network,

a) wherein said first switching node ~~(40)~~ is arranged to set up an initial connection to said second switching node ~~(30)~~, and

b) wherein said second switching node ~~(30)~~ is arranged to transmit to said first switching node ~~(40)~~ via said initial connection an information indicating the number of connections required between said second switching node ~~(30)~~ and said plurality of terminals ~~(10)~~; and

c) wherein said first switching node ~~(40)~~ is arranged to determine based on said provided information a number of connections to be set up between said first switching node ~~(40)~~ and said second switching node ~~(30)~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim12, wherein said first switching node is a GGSN ~~(40)~~ and said second switching node is an SGSN ~~(30)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 12 ~~or 13~~, wherein said second switching node ~~(30)~~ is arranged to transmit said information in a response message to a context activation request issued by said first switching element ~~(40)~~.

15. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 12 ~~or 13~~, wherein said second switching node ~~(30)~~ is arranged to transmit said information in a response message to a identification request issued by said first switching element ~~(40)~~.

16. (Currently Amended) A switching node for setting up a broadcast or multicast transmission to a plurality of terminal devices ~~(10)~~ via another switching node ~~(30)~~ of a data network,

a) wherein said switching node ~~(40)~~ is arranged to access a memory table ~~(42)~~ in order to derive an information indicating the number of connections required between said other switching node ~~(30)~~ and said plurality of terminals ~~(10)~~; and

b) wherein said switching node ~~(40)~~ is arranged to determine based on said derived information a number of connections to be set up to said other switching node ~~(30)~~.

17. (Currently Amended) A switching node for setting up a broadcast or multicast transmission to a plurality of terminal devices ~~(10)~~ via another switching node ~~(30)~~ of a data network,

a) wherein said switching node ~~(40)~~ is arranged to query, using a multicast identification or a multicast area identification, from an address server an information indicating the number of connections required between said other switching node ~~(30)~~ and said plurality of terminals ~~(10)~~; and

b) wherein said switching node ~~(40)~~ is arranged to determine based on said queried information a number of connections to be set up to said other switching node ~~(30)~~.

18. (Original) A switching node according to claim 17, wherein said address server is a DNS.

19. (Currently Amended) A switching node according to claim 16 ~~or 17~~, wherein said switching node is a GGSN ~~(40)~~.

Please add new claim 20 as follows:

20. (New) A switching node according to claim 17, wherein said switching node is a GGSN.